



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Alert**

MESSAGE ID: MSHAN-20201208-00479-ALT (Health Alert)

RECIPIENTS: All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and
Healthcare Providers – Statewide

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

SUBJECT: All Healthcare Providers and Facilities Encouraged
to Enroll as COVID-19 Vaccine Providers

Dear Colleagues,

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that both 1) **health care personnel** and 2) **residents of long-term care facilities** be offered COVID-19 vaccine in the initial phase of the vaccination program. Priority healthcare personnel include both paid and unpaid personnel in healthcare settings who have a potential of direct or indirect contact to infected persons.

Both Pfizer and Moderna have applied to the FDA for Emergency Use Authorization for their respective COVID-19 vaccines. Distribution of vaccine in Mississippi is anticipated soon. The first allocations of vaccine will be for administration to frontline hospital staff at highest risk of contact to COVID-19 infected patients, and to residents and staff of long-term care facilities. As the allocations of vaccine increase, vaccine distribution will expand to all healthcare providers and other priority groups. Hospitals, pharmacies, medical offices, clinics, and any other healthcare facility must be enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccine provider with MSDH in order to receive vaccine.

Now is the time to enroll! If your facility does not enroll as a COVID-19 vaccine provider, you will not be able to receive vaccine for administration to your staff or high priority groups. Your facility will need to complete the Provider Agreement paperwork and submit as soon as possible. Once processed, your organization will receive additional information for next steps.

See the MSDH website for resources for COVID-19 vaccine providers and the Provider Agreement at https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,71,975.html. We encourage you to read the instructions and FAQs first; this will assist greatly in the completion of the agreement. If you have any questions, feel free to email covid19vaccine@msdh.ms.gov or call our office at 601-576-7751.



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Please remember, if your facility does not complete and submit the Provider Agreement, your will not receive vaccine to administer. The initial allocation for vaccine will be available soon, so we encourage enrollment now.

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD
State Epidemiologist



Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program: MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier: MSHAN-20201208-00479-ALT
Program (HAN) Type: Health Alert
Status (Type): Actual ()
Message Type: Alert
Reference: MSHAN-00479
Severity: Unknown
Acknowledgement: No
Sensitive: Not Sensitive
Message Expiration: Undetermined
Urgency: Undetermined
Delivery Time: 600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert**, **ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages.

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

- Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
- Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
- Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded



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Message Type:

Alert: Indicates an original Alert
Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).